



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
TERRI LYNN LAND, SECRETARY OF STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
LANSING

August 4, 2004

**-- NEW PARTY QUALIFICATION --**

A political party is required to file the following in order to gain access to the November 7, 2006 general election ballot:

- 1.) A "new political party" petition containing the requisite number of valid signatures.
- 2.) A certificate which states the name of the party. The certificate must be signed by the chairperson and the secretary of the state central committee of the political party.
- 3.) A copy of the party vignette (ballot symbol).

**Petition Requirement**

To meet the petition requirement, a political party must file a "new political party" petition bearing the signatures of registered and qualified electors equal to not less than 1 percent (.01) of the total number of votes cast for all candidates for governor at the last election in which a governor was elected. At the November 5, 2002 general election, 3,177,565 votes were cast for all candidates seeking the office of governor. Thus, the minimum number of valid signatures presently required on a "new political party" petition is 31,776.

**SIGNATURE DISTRIBUTION**: At least 100 signatures from each of 8 congressional districts.

**CIRCULATION PERIOD**: 180 days preceding filing date. Signatures more than 180 days old on the date the petition is filed are not valid.

**FILING DEADLINE**: 4:00 p.m. on July 20, 2006. After a "new political party" petition is filed, additional petition sheets cannot be added to the filing.

**FILING LOCATION**: Michigan Department of State's Bureau of Elections in Lansing.

**FORM**: The form of the petition (including page size and type sizes) must be in conformity with Michigan election law, MCL 168.685. (See attached sample petition form.) The sponsors of a "new political party" petition are urged to submit a proof copy of their petition to the Board of State Canvassers for approval as to form prior to the circulation of the petition. The attached "Printer's Affidavit" must accompany a petition submitted for Board approval.

**Governing Provisions of Michigan Election Law**

The provisions of Michigan election law which govern ballot access by new political parties are attached.

A copy of the compiled Michigan election law may be obtained for \$7.50 from the Michigan Department of State's Bureau of Elections. If ordering by mail, make your check or money order payable to the "State of Michigan."

**Questions?**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

THE SPONSORS OF A "NEW POLITICAL PARTY" PETITIONS ARE URGED TO SUBMIT A PROOF COPY OF THEIR PETITION TO THE BOARD OF STATE CANVASSERS FOR APPROVAL AS TO FORM PRIOR TO THE CIRCULATION OF THE PETITION. WHEN SUBMITTING A PETITION FORM FOR APPROVAL, THE BOARD REQUESTS THAT THIS AFFIDAVIT BE ATTACHED.

### PRINTER'S AFFIDAVIT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, BEING DULY SWORN, DEPOSE AND SAY:

1. THAT I PREPARED THE ATTACHED PETITION PROOF.
2. THAT THE SIZE OF THE PETITION IS 8 1/2" x 13".
3. THAT THE WORDS "PETITION TO FORM NEW POLITICAL PARTY" AND THE NAME OF THE PROPOSED PARTY ARE 24-POINT BOLDFACE TYPE.
4. THAT THE WORDS "WE, THE UNDERSIGNED ... ETC." ARE IN 8-POINT TYPE.
5. THAT THE TWO "WARNINGS" AND THE LANGUAGE CONTAINED THEREIN ARE PRINTED IN 12-POINT BOLDFACE TYPE.
6. THAT THE WORDS "CIRCULATOR - DO NOT SIGN OR DATE CERTIFICATE UNTIL AFTER CIRCULATING PETITION" ARE IN 12-POINT BOLDFACE TYPE.
7. THAT THE BALANCE OF THE PETITION IS IN 8-POINT TYPE.
8. THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF THE PETITION CONFORMS TO THE PETITION FORM STANDARDS PRESCRIBED BY MICHIGAN ELECTION LAW.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposal

Subscribed and sworn to by \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Notary \_\_\_\_\_

before me on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public, State of Michigan, County of \_\_\_\_\_

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

Acting in the County of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of notary public